



***Men's Annual General  
Meeting***

Will be held in the Clubhouse  
Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022  
at 4.30pm

**Agenda**

1. Minutes of last Men's Annual General Meeting 2021
2. Men's Honorary Secretary's Report
3. Handicap Report
4. Junior Convenor Report
5. Notice of Motion
6. Any other business
7. Election of Officers & Committee

Declan O'Toole, Men's Honorary Secretary

**COPIES OF MINUTES OF THE  
2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE CIRCULATED ON WEBSITE  
&  
ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE BY ARRANGEMENT**

## **Men's Hon. Sec. Report for 2022 A.G.M.**

The golf season has come to an end and after two years of Covid-19 disruption we finally got a full calendar of golf in 2022. The Men's Committee hope it has proven to be another enjoyable and successful year for you. In general, the matters of the club have progressed to our satisfaction this year and much credit is due to our Captain Adrian Copeland, his Vice Captain Paul McDonald and President Noel McCartan, who have worked tirelessly to represent Courtown and its members both inside the club and beyond.

Our Professional team of Paul, James & Martin have done a great job in facilitating all our competitions, green fees & golf classics throughout the year and I would like to take this opportunity in thanking them for their support and assistance. Our former manager David Colley has also been a great support to the Men's committee. We wish David well in his new role at Druids Glen. We also wish our outgoing caterer's (Ian & Siobhan) well in their future endeavors and thank them for their service during their seven years in Courtown.

The 2022 Men's committee have put in trojan work throughout the year, organising competitions, analysing handicaps, entering and selecting interclub teams, promoting the men's section, actively seeking and welcoming new members, organising junior golf etc. All these things do not just happen at the start of the season. Each chairman has to coordinate their various sub-committees, get all relevant information, organise meetings etc. I want to acknowledge the amount of time that the committee and their sub-committees put into the club to ensure men's golf runs as smoothly as possible.

### **Teams**

This was a reasonably successful year for our interclub teams as most made a bit of a run through a couple of rounds and unfortunately just coming out the wrong side of a few very tight matches. The most successful team this year was the All-Ireland Fourball team who got to the Leinster Central semi-final in Bunclody. It was also great to see quite a few new faces representing the club and the added energy that gave the entire panel. Of course, none of this would be possible without the work of the selectors who deserve huge thanks for giving up their time in organising matches. Hopefully next year will see even more interest in participating on teams and allow Courtown Golf Club to be competitive across all teams and handicap levels.

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## Competitions

The Summer Series and Winter League were completed successfully and on time with an average of 250 members and visitors every Wednesday. Tommy Kinsella was the lucky winner of The Summer Series. The EBS Winter League proved to be a very successful again this year. There were more than 80 members signed up for the 21/22 competition and over 80 again for the 22/23 league.

We had a good mix of winners in all Competitions with John Fitzgerald winning The Captains Prize and Tony Kinsella winning The Presidents Prize. Congratulations to all the prize winners. Thanks to all our Sponsors for their continued support, we wish them well in future and hope that our members will continue to support them whenever possible. Competition Secretary (Kieran Murphy) would like to thank all the members of the competitions Sub Committee for their hard work and dedication throughout the year and to Laura and Mary for their help with prizes and presentations. Thanks also to the staff and volunteers in The Office, Pro Shop, Bar and on the course for their help throughout the year.

### Analysis of Competition winning scores and Handicaps

<b>95% Course Handicap Category</b>	<b>% Distribution among male members</b>	<b>% Distribution for 1st, 2nd, &amp; 3rd Prize winners in Singles competitions 2021</b>	<b>% Distribution for 1st, 2nd, &amp; 3rd Prize winners 2022</b>
<b>-1 to 5</b>	3	4	4%
<b>6 to 10</b>	10	13	14%
<b>11 to 15</b>	22	19	27%
<b>16 to 20</b>	23	28	17%
<b>21 to 25</b>	20	25	22%
<b>26 to 30</b>	13	10	10%
<b>31 to 35</b>	6	1	3%
<b>36 to 40</b>	3	0	3%
<b>41 to 45</b>	1	0	1%

Average singles prize score 2022; **40pts**

As you can see from the above table the current handicap and competition system is working well. Each handicap range has won their fair share of the prizes given the percentage of players in that handicap range.

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There has been a lot of work done on the course throughout the year. Sanding of greens and fairways is always a contentious issue, but very essential. Well done to everyone involved in the improvement works ongoing in our practice area. When these works are complete, we will have a state-of-the-art practice facility available for generations to come.

We as a committee were delighted and encouraged by the many new members that joined our club during the year. We would like to extend a warm Courtown welcome to every one of you and we hope your membership will be enjoyable and fruitful and we look forward to your active participation in Courtown Golf Club for many years to come.

I would like to sincerely thank your Men's Committee for volunteering their time and for their hard work in 2022. Your committee consisted of Adrian Copeland (Captain), Noel McCartan (President), Paul McDonald (Vice-Captain), Paul Doran (Handicap Secretary), Kieran Murphy (Competitions Secretary), Alan McDonald (Teams coordinator), Paul Flynn (P.R.O. Men's section), Tim Collins (Junior Convenor). Paul Doran's Handicap Report and Tim Collins Junior Golf Report are attached herewith.

Finally, I would like to congratulate our outgoing Captain Adrian on a great golfing year and wish our incoming Captain (Paul) a successful 2023 season.

Yours in Golf,

**Declan O'Toole**

**Men's Honorary Secretary**

## **Courtown Golf Club Men's AGM Handicap Report 2022**

- The World Handicap System has now been in place for a couple of years and has been broadly accepted as a comprehensive fair handicapping system. The introduction of digital recording of general play scores has facilitated the recording of non-competition scores and is frequently used by some members. There have been no formal requests for individual handicap reviews this year to date. Note that all handicap adjustments during the year have been posted on the Noticeboard.
- A general review of handicaps was completed at the end of the winter, after the “non-acceptable” or non-counting scoring period, resulting in a number of handicap adjustments. It is intended to complete this process on two occasions in the coming winter.
- A review was conducted at the end of the winter league and at the end of the club match-play competitions, resulting in a number of handicap adjustments for prize-winners.
- A review of all “team” competitions was completed, (i.e. fourball, scramble and two person team events), resulting in a number of handicap adjustments.
- Approximately 45 new handicaps were issued this year and the committee continues to encourage any member without a handicap to return marked scorecards with 54 holes in 9-hole or 18-hole format.
- The Handicap Annual Review is in progress involving thorough scrutiny of all reports available on the Golf Ireland platform, and a review of scoring history and competition results. The committee's overall approach remains that, in general, a player's recorded scores are the fairest and most even measure of their own ability.
- A system was put in place to tackle the issue of non-returned scorecards and incomplete cards. In general, members responded very well but nevertheless, a number of penalty scores were issued.
- Further to last year's analysis of individual and team event scores which demonstrated that prizes have been reasonably well distributed among the different handicap categories, an analysis of 30 fourball and team event competitions this year indicated that there were 160 members among the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizewinners.

I would like to thank the members of the Handicapping Sub-Committee for their significant input during the year.

**Paul Doran (Handicap Secretary)**

## JUNIOR CONVENOR'S REPORT

### *Update on Junior Golf in Courtown*

The junior section in Courtown continues to thrive. It is heartening to see so many enthusiastic junior golfers in the club.

We saw a further net increase in junior membership numbers this year. The profile of junior members by age and gender are set out in the table below.

<b>Age as at 1 January 2022</b>	<b>Membership number</b>		
	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Total</b>
7 to 10	24	40	64
11 to 12	11	33	44
13 to 15	7	44	51
16 to 18	6	21	27
<b>Total 2022 membership</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>186</b>
Prior year membership number (U18)	49	128	177
<b>Net increase / (decrease) in numbers</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>

The success of junior golf in Courtown is down to a number of factors:

1. A robust structure put in place by the previous Junior Convenor, Adrian Copeland, who built the junior program from the ground up.
2. The ongoing efforts of the Junior Committee and parents in organising events, supervising coaching and competitions, and encouraging our junior golfers!
3. An affordable membership subscription offering – starting at €55 p.a. and maxing out at €200 p.a.
4. Weekly coaching sessions led by our Club Professional, Paul Morris, with support from parents.
5. A full schedule of competitions and events.
6. Extensive on-course playing opportunities for juniors, including playing and competing in adult competitions, subject to certain restrictions.

The main challenge for junior golf in Courtown is to retain our junior members and continue to attract new members, insofar as we have capacity to do so. With our younger junior cohort, we reached capacity this year with membership numbers in that any further increases would have presented challenges in terms of being able to safely deliver coaching. We will open up

admissions for the younger junior cohort where we have members from this cohort that fail to renew their membership, which will inevitably happen to some extent.

### ***Overview of the Junior Program in Courtown***

The junior golf season started in early April this year.

The junior golf program in Courtown splits junior golfers into two different cohorts based on a combination of age and golfing ability.

The first cohort is the Junior Cadets (Stage 1 & 2), which caters for novices and less experienced junior golfers. Junior Cadets can start from age 7 and typically progress to the next stage of junior golf by age 12 or 13. Progression to the next stage can be brought forward if a junior golfer shows advanced ability relative to their peer group.

The second cohort are the Stage 3 & 4 juniors. This group are typically aged 12 or 13 and up, and are generally more experienced and more advanced golfers than the Junior Cadets.

The coaching and competitive elements of the junior golf program are tailored for each cohort.

Coaching for junior cadets focuses more on golfing fundamentals combined with fun games and activities. The competitive aspect is more relaxed, with scramble events as opposed to individual competition, and a more relaxed approach to the rules.

Coaching for the Stage 3 & 4 juniors is more advanced and sessions tend to be targeted on specific aspects of the game. Stage 3 & 4 juniors have also had extensive access to the trackman technology in the bungalow throughout the course of the year. A full schedule of competitions (both 9 & 18 holes) runs throughout the summer and during school breaks.

### ***Highlights from the year***

This year we had 3 Junior teams competing in inter-club Competitions; Boys U15 and Boys U18, as well as a Girls U18 team. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful but it was a great learning experience for all involved and we will come back stronger next year. Many of those who participated in interclub competitions this year have a number of years remaining at underage level and are improving rapidly! We also fielded a Junior Cadets team in an interclub 'Golf Sixes' scramble, who narrowly missed out on regional qualification by finishing second to Rosslare.

A full schedule of Competitions was held during the year for our Stage 3 & 4 golfers. Our Cadets played a number of 'Golf Sixes' competitions; this is a fun team format played in a team of 6 (three 2-ball scrambles) over 6 holes shortened to 150 metres.

The results from this year's 'Majors' was as follows:

**Captain's Prize to the Juniors**

Caelan Funge (Handicap: 44) 44 pts

**Tom Funge Memorial**

**Boys** – Dylan Copeland (Handicap: 35) 42 pts

**Girls** – Robyn O'Toole (Handicap: 42) 50 pts

**Junior Boys (Andrew Smith) Captain's prize**

Darragh O'Toole (Handicap: 7) 41 pts

**Junior Girls (Theodora Lande) Captain's prize**

Caroline McGarry (Handicap: 29) 38 pts

**Presidents Prize to the Juniors**

**Boys** - Dylan Copeland (Handicap: 32) 40 pts

**Girls** – Caoimhe Geraghty (Handicap: 41) 45 pts

A special mention for Darragh O'Toole, aged 15, who has made sensational progress over the year, and now has a handicap index of 4.8! Darragh competed in a number of boys events over the summer, and in July finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Flogas Irish Junior Open competition held in Arklow.

Both Darragh O'Toole and Dylan Copeland qualified for the Area Development coaching run by Golf Ireland. Those selected for Area Development will receive six three-hour coaching sessions between October 2022 and May 2023, with a Golf Ireland coach.

Caoimhe Geraghty enjoyed a fabulous year of golf also. Caoimhe won one of the junior majors for 2022, topped the order of merit of the year, and on the back of her golfing achievements, qualified as one of 60 to compete in the Girls Junior Medal Qualifiers at Woodbrook Golf Club in early November.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the Junior Committee, the parents of our junior members, and our Club Pro, Paul Morris, for all they have done to make this another successful year of junior golf at our club.

**Tim Collins (Junior Convenor)**